

Message Text

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R 222101Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL MONTREAL
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

UNCLAS STATE 129917

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AGAO, ECEM, CA

SUBJECT: PROPOSED VISIT BY GAO TEAM TO MONTREAL, JUNE 7-8,
1978.

1. BASED ON RESEARCH IN U.S. FOLLOWING THE ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION REGARDING THE MANDATORY INSTALLATION OF PASSIVE RESTRAINTS IN AUTOMOBILES, THE GAO HAS LEARNED THAT A CANADIAN FIRM "CANADIAN INDUSTRIES, LTD" P.O. BOX 10, STATION A., TELEPHONE 514-874-3118 OR 3248, MONTREAL, CANADA, IS ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL MANUFACTURERS OF SODIUM AZIDE, NANE, THE CHEMICAL USED TO INFLATE AUTOMOBILE AIR BAGS. IN CONNECTION WITH ITS OVERALL REVIEW OF PASSIVE RESTRAINTS, THE GAO WOULD APPRECIATE THE POSTS ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING MEETINGS FOR JUNE 7-8 WITH GAO TEAM COMPOSED OF MESSRS. MICHAEL ROSS AND ROBERT HERMANN AND THE FOLLOW-FIRM OFFICIALS:
MR. STEPHEN ISTVANFFY, PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT MANAGER
MR. MARIO DI VALENTIN, BUSINESS MANAGER

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2. PRIOR TO PROCEEDING TO MONTREAL, THE GAO TEAM WOULD LIKE ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING FOLLOWING INFORMATION FROM "CANADIAN INDUSTRIES, LTD.":

A) WHAT STUDIES HAVE BEEN MADE REGARDING POTENTIAL HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS RELATED TO PRODUCTION, USE AND DISPOSAL OF THIS CHEMICAL?

B) WHAT ARE PRESCRIBED SAFETY PRECAUTIONS FOLLOWED
IN MANUFACTURE, HANDLING, USE AND DISPOSAL?

C) WHAT IS EXPERIENCE AND NUMBER OF WORKER EXPOSURES
AND OUTCOME?

D) PAST PRODUCTION VOLUME;

E) PRESENT PRODUCTION CAPACITY;

F) EXPECTED PRODUCTION VOLUME FOR 1982;

G) BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON FORMATION AND GROWTH
OF FIRM AND WHAT IS ESTIMATED CAPACITY FOR FUTURE EXPANS-
ION.

3. PLEASE RESERVE AND CONFIRM TWO SINGLES WITH BATH AT
REASONABLY PRICED HOTEL IN MONTREAL FOR NIGHTS OF JUNE 7 &
8. TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE TELEGRAPHED UPON RECEIPT
OF INFORMATION THAT MEETING DATES ARE CONVENIENT AND
CONFIRMED.

4. DEPARTMENT CERTIFIES THAT MESSRS. ROSS AND HERMANN
HOLD CURRENT TOP SECRET SECURITY CLEARANCES.

5. THE GAO IS AWARE THAT ANY CONTACTS WITH FOREIGN
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OFFICIALS ARE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE AMBASSADOR/PRINCIPAL
OFFICER, TO BE ARRANGED FOR BY THE POST AND POSTOFF TO
ACCOMPANY, IF FEASIBLE.

6. DEPARTMENT WISHES TO COOPERATE WITH THE GAO IN ACCOR-
DANCE WITH 4 FAM 930-934. ANY QUESTIONS OR PROBLEMS THAT
ARISE DURING THE COURSE OF THE VISIT SHOULD BE REFERRED TO
THE DEPARTMENT. VANCE

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